

**MARVEL**

**THE EPIC CONCLUSION!**

**#5**

**CULLEN BUNN  
IBAN COELLO  
MATT YACKEY**

# VENOMIZED

WHETHER WE  
LIVE OR DIE...  
**THIS ENDS  
NOW!**





# VENOMIZED

THE POISONS--AN INTERDIMENSIONAL SPECIES HELL-BENT ON CONQUEST THAT CAN CONSUME KLYNTAR SYMBIOTES AND THEIR HOSTS--HAVE LAUNCHED AN ALL-OUT ATTACK ON THE MARVEL UNIVERSE.

FROM THEIR SHIP HIGH IN EARTH'S ORBIT, THE POISONS COORDINATED ATTACKS ACROSS THE GLOBE, FORCIBLY BONDING HEROES TO ALIEN SYMBIOTES AND CONSUMING THEM.

THE HEROES OF NEW YORK CITY WERE CAUGHT AT THE EPICENTER OF THE ATTACK AND A NUMBER OF THE CITY'S HEROES WERE BONDED TO SYMBIOTES. SOME--LIKE RAGE, D-MAN AND JEAN GREY--WERE UNABLE TO RID THEMSELVES OF THEIR SYMBIOTES BEFORE BEING MADE LOYAL TO THE HIVE.

A SMALL CONTINGENT OF HEROES, LED BY CAPTAIN AMERICA AND VENOM, BOARDED TWO TRANSPORTS AND SET A COURSE FOR THE POISON VESSEL, HOPING TO MOUNT A COUNTERATTACK AND FACE THE POISONS HEAD-ON.

BUT POISON THANOS, COMMANDER OF THE POISON'S FORCES, RIPPED THROUGH CAP'S SHIP, GROUNDING IT AND EVERYBODY ABOARD. WITH LITTLE CHOICE, VENOM AND HIS CONTINGENT MAINTAINED COURSE, HEADING INTO THE BELLY OF THE BEAST...

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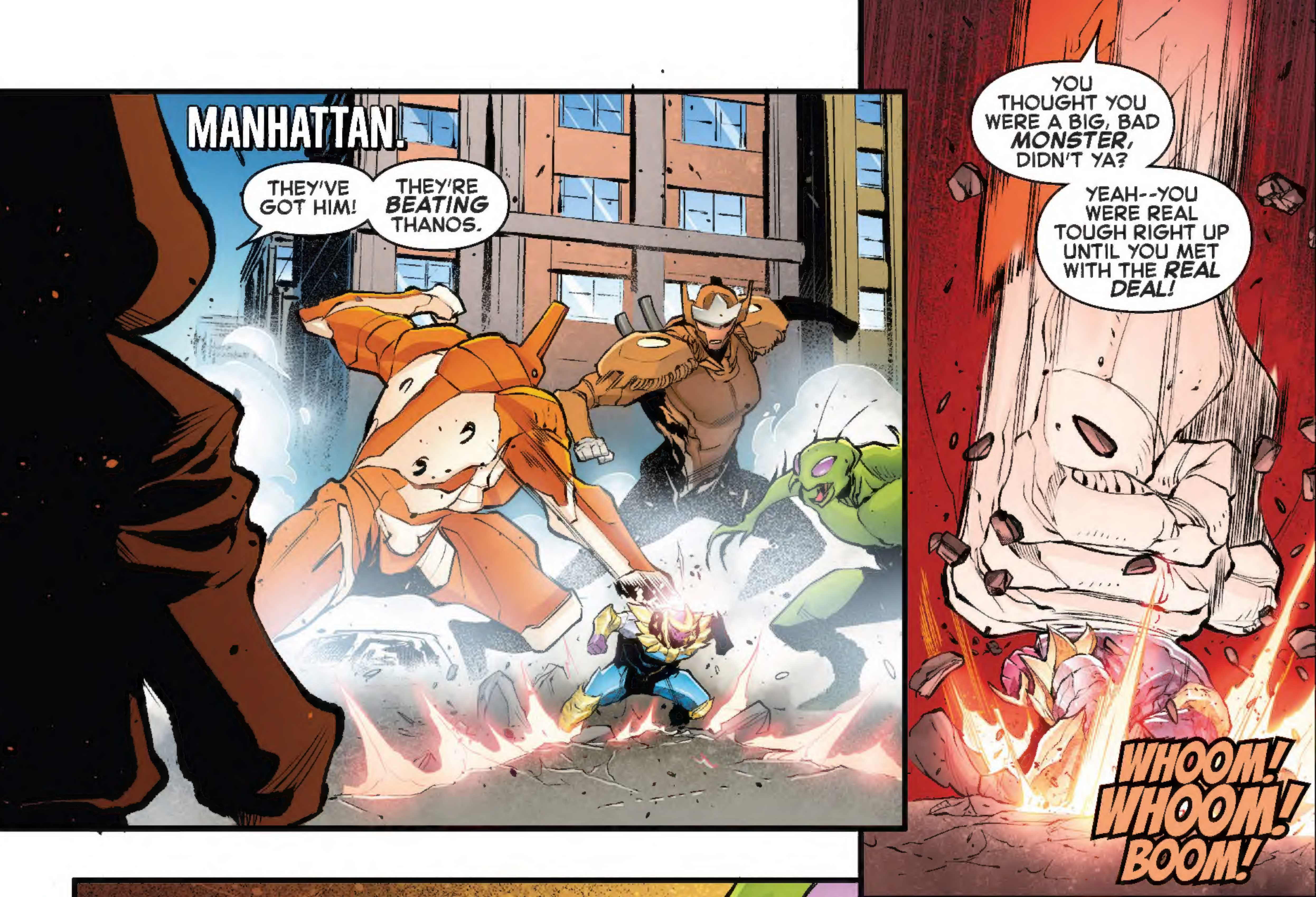
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SPECIAL THANKS TO AXEL ALONSO





MANHATTAN!

THEY'VE GOT HIM!

THEY'RE BEATING THANOS.

YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE A BIG, BAD MONSTER, DIDN'T YA?

YEAH--YOU WERE REAL TOUGH RIGHT UP UNTIL YOU MET WITH THE REAL DEAL!

WHOOOM!  
WHOOOM!  
BOOM!



THE MIGHTY **SKRAGG** DEMANDS THAT WE NOT HUMILIATE OUR ENEMIES, EVEN IN OUR VICTORY!



UH...CAP? CAPTAIN AMERICA?

YOU OKAY?

I THINK WE'RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.

I THINK...



"...WE'RE GONNA GET THROUGH THIS."

BIG FELLA. GONNA TAKE ALL MY SYMBIOTES TO TURN YOU.



BWA-

THOOM!





THE MIGHTY  
SCRAGG FEELS--  
POWERFUL!

OH...  
OH, NO.

SCRAGG...  
YOU GOTTA  
GET OUT OF  
HERE!

SCRAGG--

--RUN!

THE MIGHTY  
SCRAGG OFFERS  
A THUNDEROUS  
WELCOME TO HIS  
SYMBIOTIC  
FRIEND!

THE MIGHTY  
SCRAGG--

SKREEAA AARRRK!



THE MIGHTY  
SCRAGG IS MADE  
WHOLE!

THE MIGHTY  
SCRAGG BRINGS TIDINGS  
OF RUINATION AND  
DESTRUCTION TO THOSE  
WHO WOULD OPPOSE  
THE HIVE!

THOUGH THE  
MIGHTY SCRAGG  
DOES NOT KNOW  
WHY ANYONE  
WOULD!

SCRAGG--  
YOU...

...YOU  
CAN'T  
BE...

WAIT.  
WHAT  
JUST HAPPENED/  
OCCURRED/  
TRANPIRED?

IS  
SCRAGG--

DON'T  
WORRY,  
MEKARA! I...  
I CAN FIX  
THIS!

SCRAGG--  
JUST HANG  
ON!

AW,  
KID.

IT'S NO  
USE.

THAT  
MONSTER OF  
YOURS...IT'S  
GONE.

"EVERYONE  
HOLD ON!"

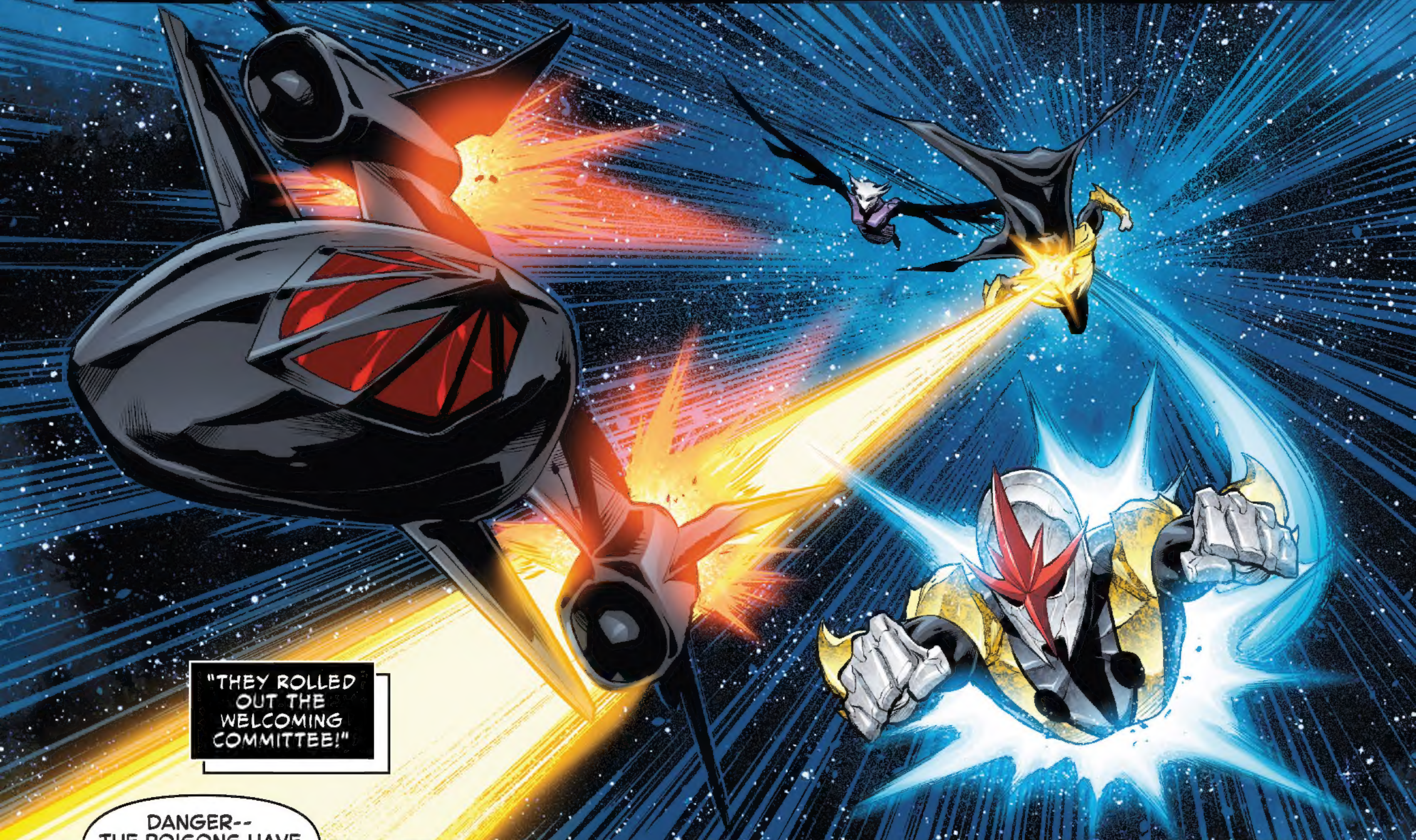




WE'RE  
ALMOST TO YOUR  
COORDINATES, CYCLOPS,  
BUT WE'VE GOT  
HOSTILES!

YOUR  
CONNECTION  
TO JEAN  
BETRAYED  
US.

THE  
POISONS  
KNEW WE WERE  
COMING!



"THEY ROLLED  
OUT THE  
WELCOMING  
COMMITTEE!"

DANGER--  
THE POISONS HAVE  
THEIR SHIP SEALED  
UP TIGHT.

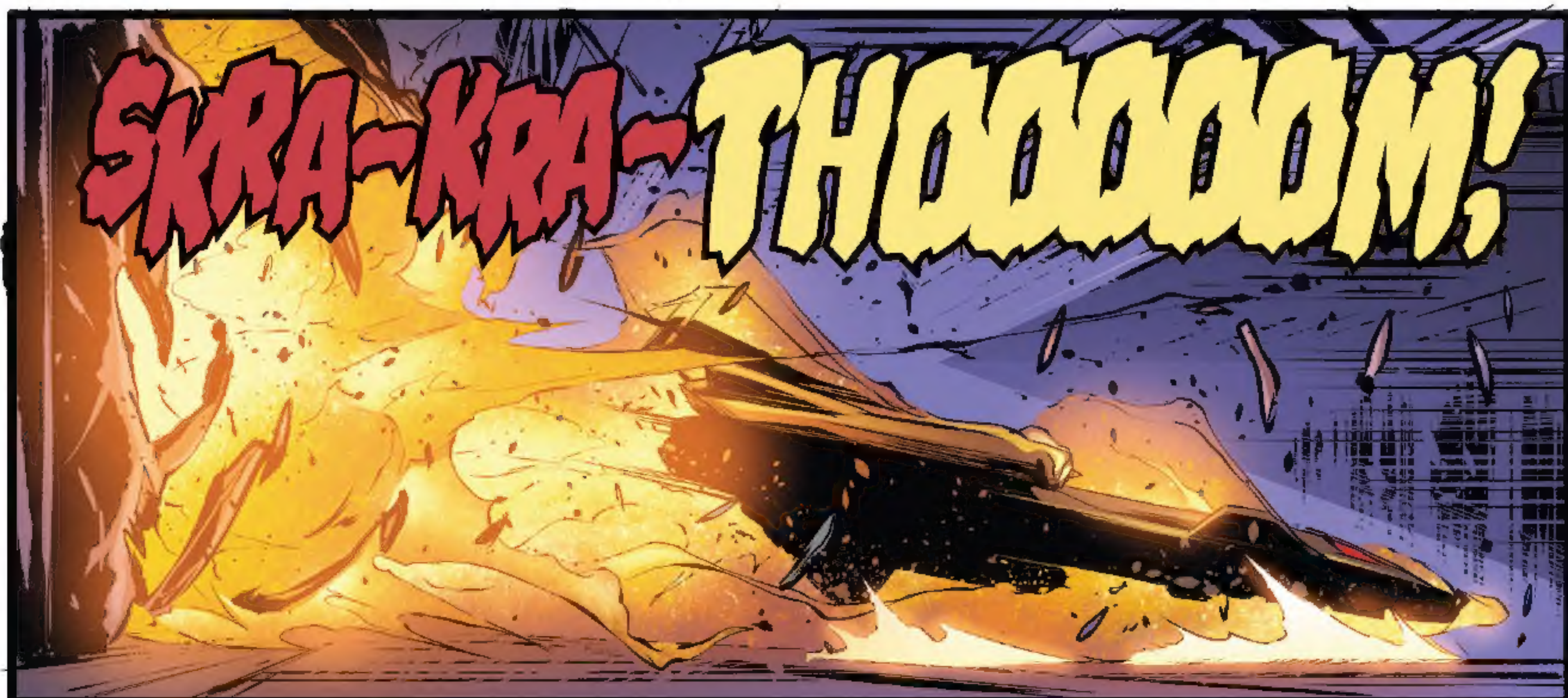
THEY'RE  
NOT GOING TO  
OPEN THE DOORS  
FOR US.

I  
UNDERSTAND,  
BEAST.

YIELD THE  
CONTROLS  
TO ME.

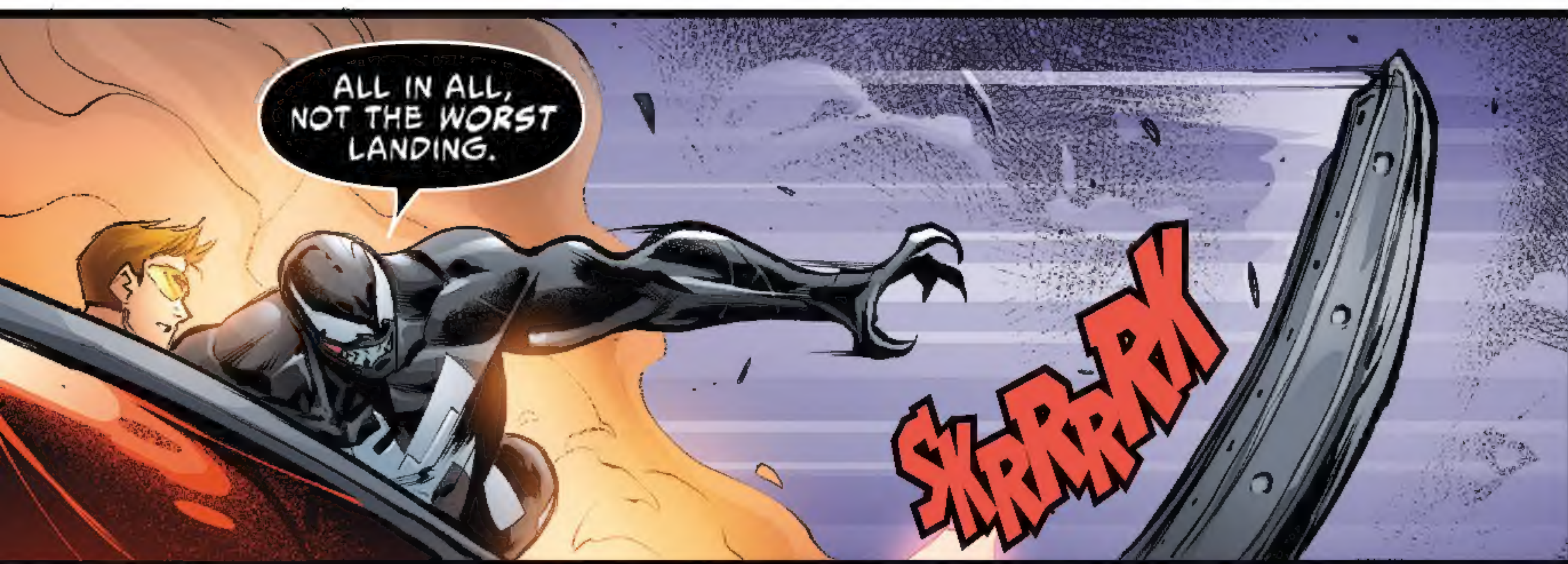


AND  
BRACE FOR  
IMPACT.



SKRA-KRA-THOOOOM!





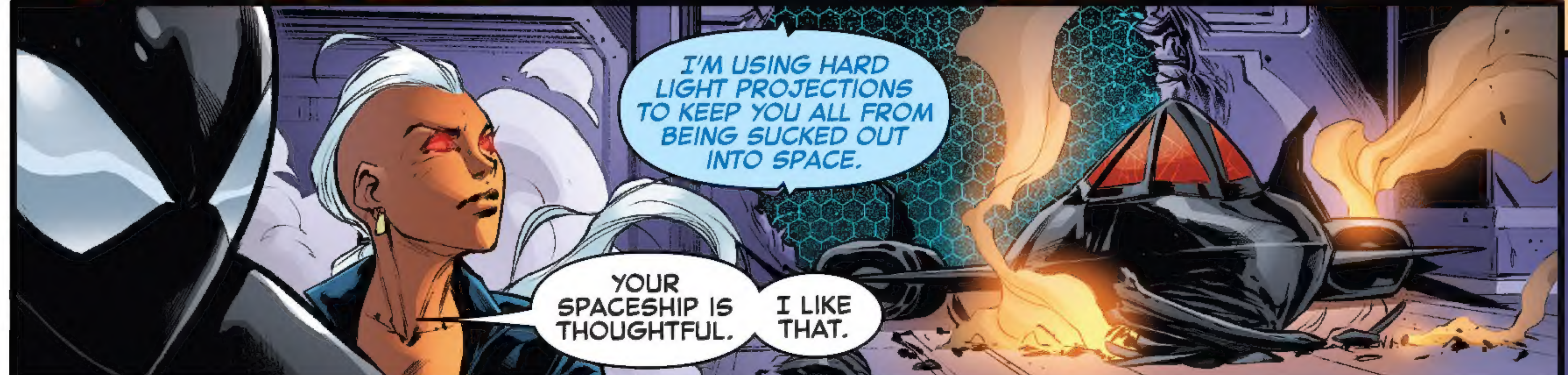
ALL IN ALL,  
NOT THE WORST  
LANDING.

SKRRRK



DANGER,  
ARE YOU--

I'VE BEEN  
SKKZK  
BETTER.  
BUT I'LL  
SURVIVE.  
AND--  
THANKS TO  
ME--SO WILL  
YOU.



I'M USING HARD  
LIGHT PROJECTIONS  
TO KEEP YOU ALL FROM  
BEING SUCKED OUT  
INTO SPACE.

YOUR  
SPACESHIP IS  
THOUGHTFUL.  
I LIKE  
THAT.



YOU  
STILL HEARING  
JEAN?  
IS SHE  
TELLING YOU  
WHERE TO  
GO?

N-NO.

SHE'S  
GONE  
SILENT.



WELL...  
WE ALL KNEW  
THIS MAY'VE  
BEEN A  
TRAP.

OH, IT'S  
A TRAP,  
ALL RIGHT,  
"DADDY."





ONLY  
YOU TRAPPED  
YOURSELVES...

...LIKE A  
RABBIT IN A  
BOX, AND JEAN  
GREY WAS THE  
CARROT!

AND SINCE  
I CONVINCED  
DRUID TO 'PORT  
US HOME, I GET  
TO SKIN THE  
BUNNIES!



SORRY.

I'M JUST...  
NOT A BIG FAN  
OF MAGIC.

DON'T  
APOLOGIZE.

GET  
MOVING.

FOLLOW  
THE BAIT. FIND  
JEAN, AND SHUT  
THIS OPERATION  
DOWN.



SPIDER-MAN  
AND I  
CAN HANDLE  
CARNAGE.

JUST LIKE  
OLD TIMES--  
I LOVE IT!





BEAST...  
CYCLOPS...

...YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
THAT WHAT WE  
ARE DOING...

...EVEN  
IF WE ARE  
SUCCESSFUL...

...WE WILL  
LIKELY NOT  
SURVIVE.



MY FATE'S ALREADY SET,  
BLOODSTORM.

I'VE BEEN  
LOOKING DOWN  
THE BARREL OF AN  
IMMINENT DEATH  
SINCE I GOT  
HERE.

JUST  
MEANS I NEED  
TO MAKE  
WHATEVER TIME  
I HAVE LEFT MEAN  
SOMETHING.



I AM  
IMMORTAL,  
SCOTT  
SUMMERS...

...AND I  
FIND MYSELF  
WISHING I HAD  
MORE TIME TO  
KNOW YOU.



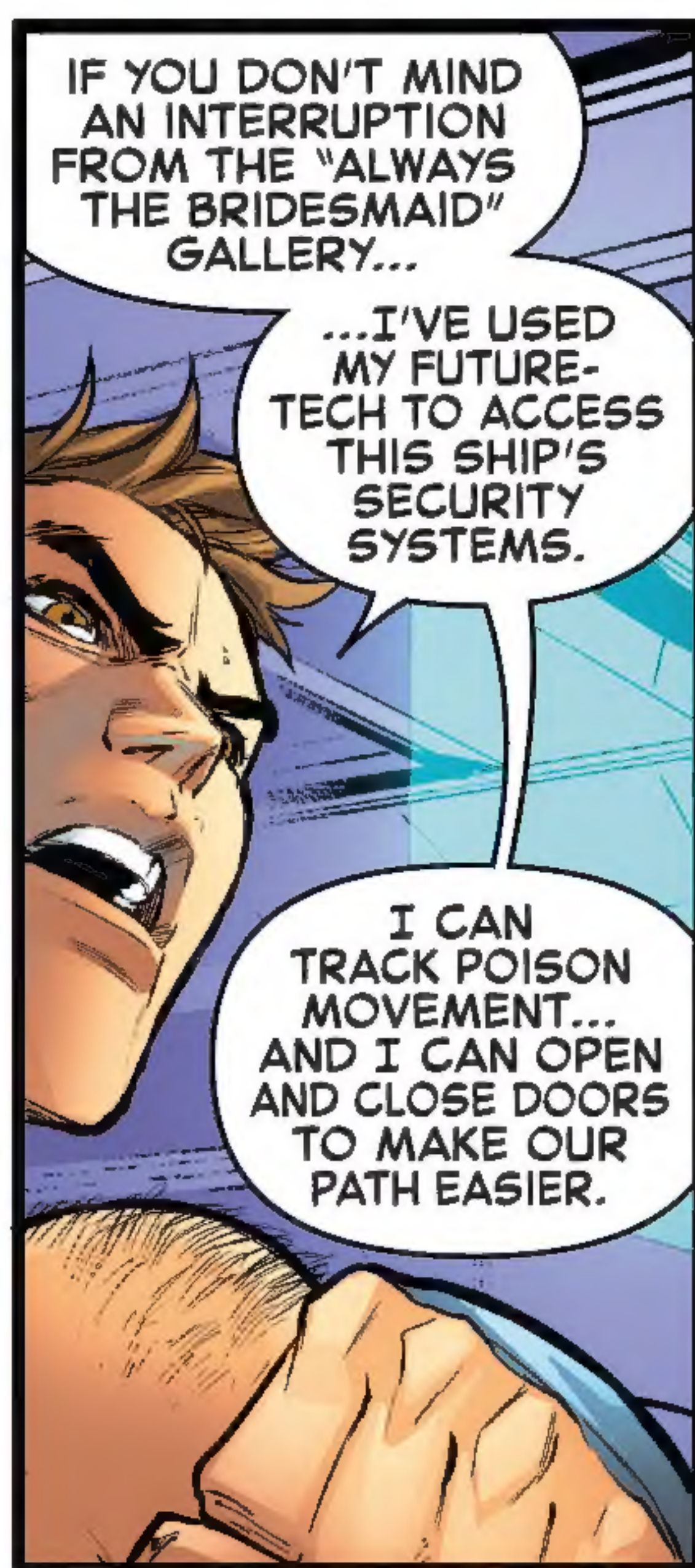
NNNN...



VENOM  
WAS RIGHT,  
JEAN...

...SHE'S STILL  
REACHING  
OUT...

...TELLING  
ME WHERE  
TO GO...



IF YOU DON'T MIND  
AN INTERRUPTION  
FROM THE "ALWAYS  
THE BRIDESMAID"  
GALLERY...

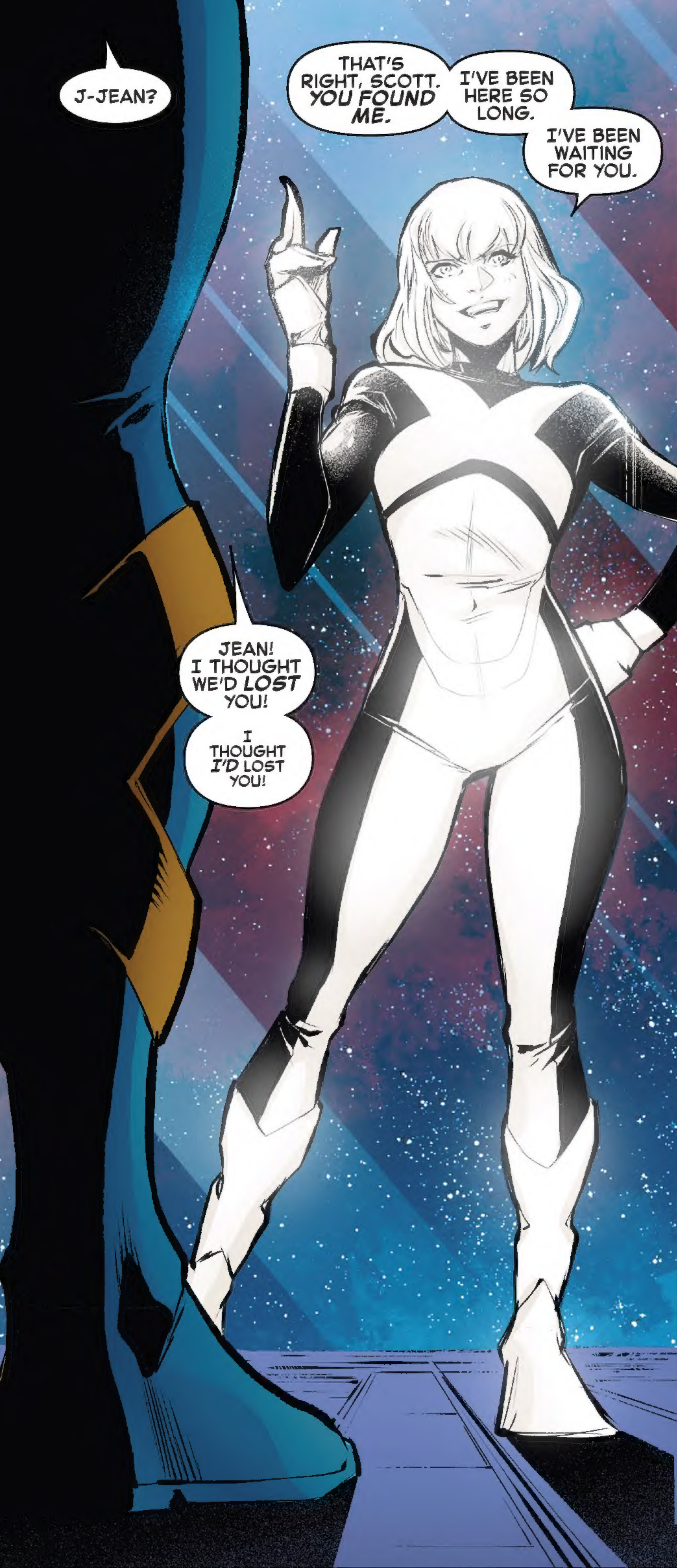
...I'VE USED  
MY FUTURE-  
TECH TO ACCESS  
THIS SHIP'S  
SECURITY  
SYSTEMS.

I CAN  
TRACK POISON  
MOVEMENT...  
AND I CAN OPEN  
AND CLOSE DOORS  
TO MAKE OUR  
PATH EASIER.



THIS  
WAY.





J-JEAN?

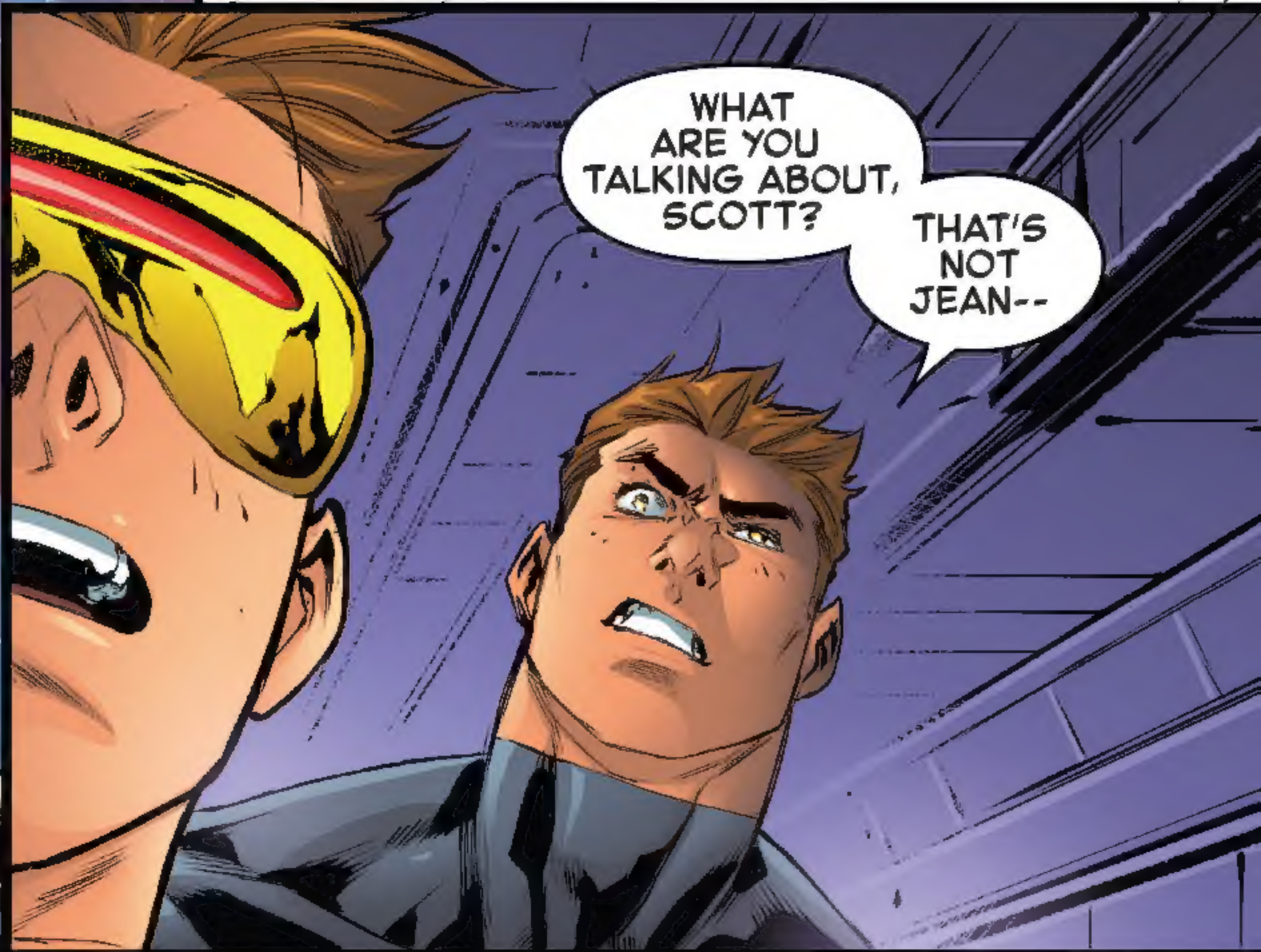
THAT'S  
RIGHT, SCOTT.  
YOU FOUND  
ME.

I'VE BEEN  
HERE SO  
LONG.

I'VE BEEN  
WAITING  
FOR YOU.

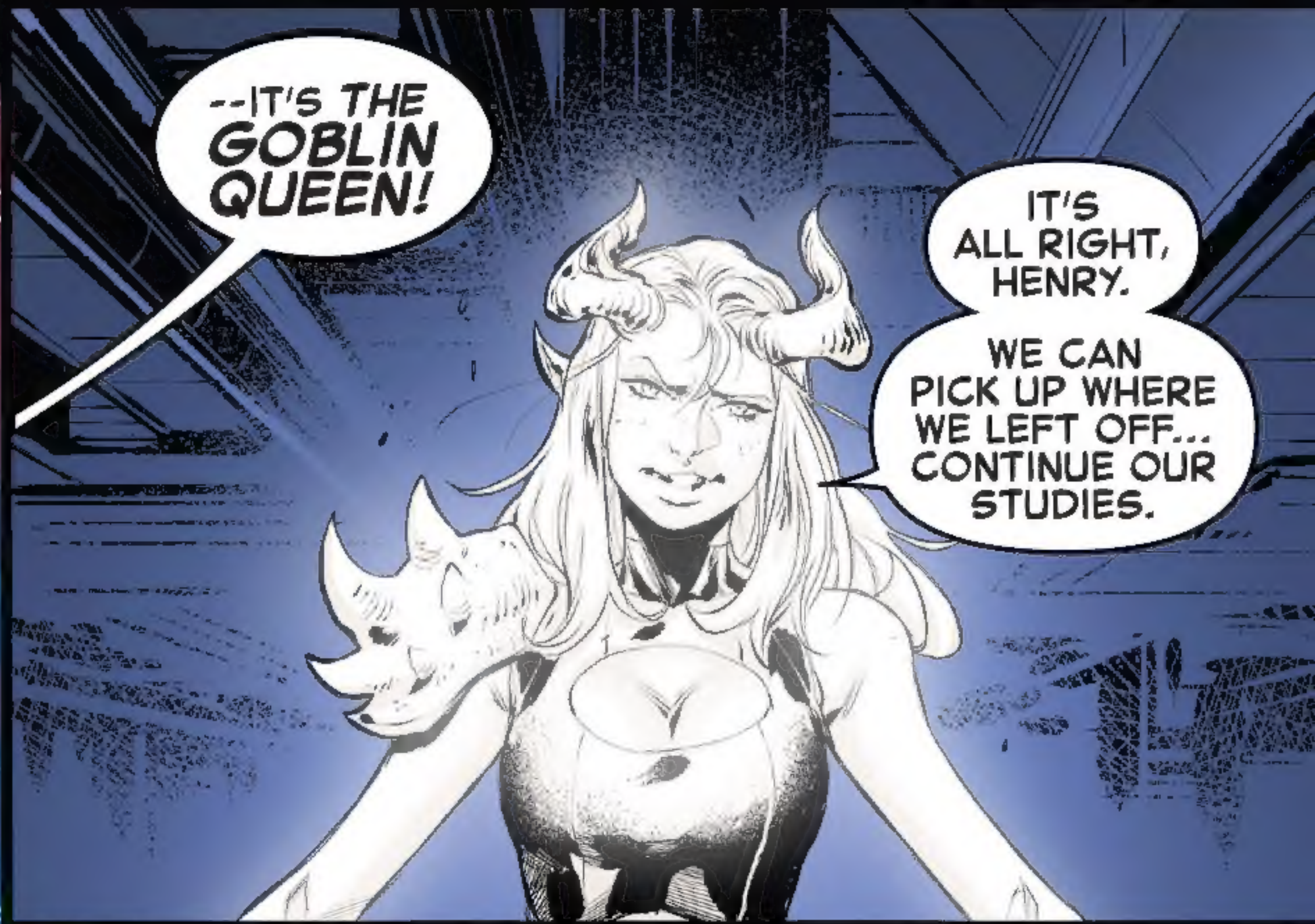
JEAN!  
I THOUGHT  
WE'D LOST  
YOU!

I  
THOUGHT  
I'D LOST  
YOU!



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING ABOUT,  
SCOTT?

THAT'S  
NOT  
JEAN--



--IT'S **THE  
GOBLIN  
QUEEN!**

IT'S  
ALL RIGHT,  
HENRY.

WE CAN  
PICK UP WHERE  
WE LEFT OFF...  
CONTINUE OUR  
STUDIES.



BLOODSTORM,  
MY LOVE--

WE'RE...  
BEING  
DECEIVED.

WHAT  
WE'RE SEEING,  
THE PEOPLE  
WE LOVE...



...THEY'RE THE  
**LURES** VENOM  
WARNED US  
ABOUT.

"THERE IS  
NO ESCAPE!"





THE AWFUL  
SCRAGG WIL  
BRING YOU TO  
THE HIVE!

SCRAGG,  
OL' BUDDY!  
WHAT'S  
GOTTEN INTO  
YOU!  
YOU  
CAN SHAKE  
THIS!

WHAM!

SCRAGG--

THAT  
CREATURE...

...TOO  
POWERFUL...

...CAN'T  
LET IT--

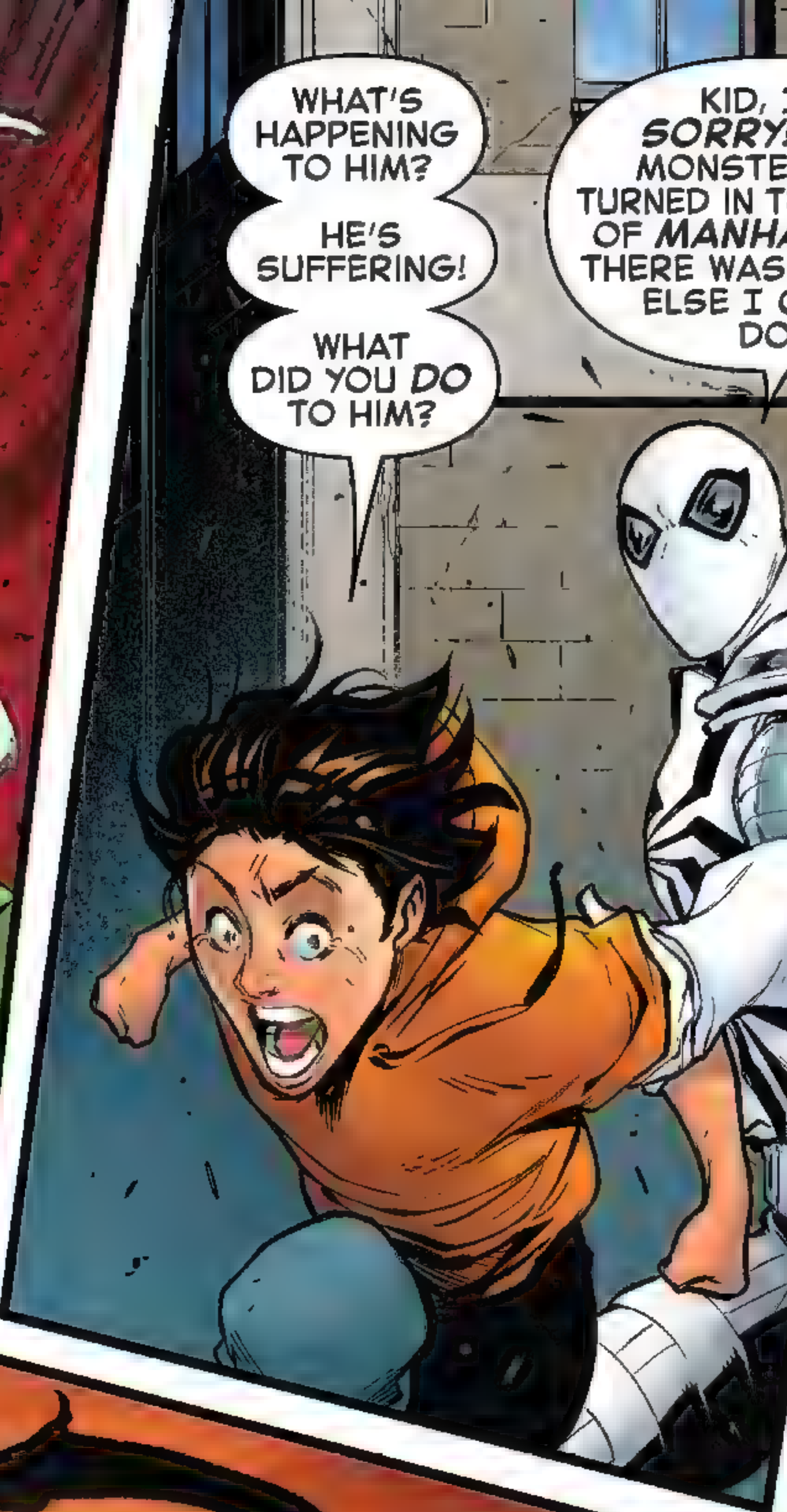
I'M  
SORRY AS  
HELL FOR  
THIS.

SKREEEE





THE MIGHTY SCRAGG-- HURTS!

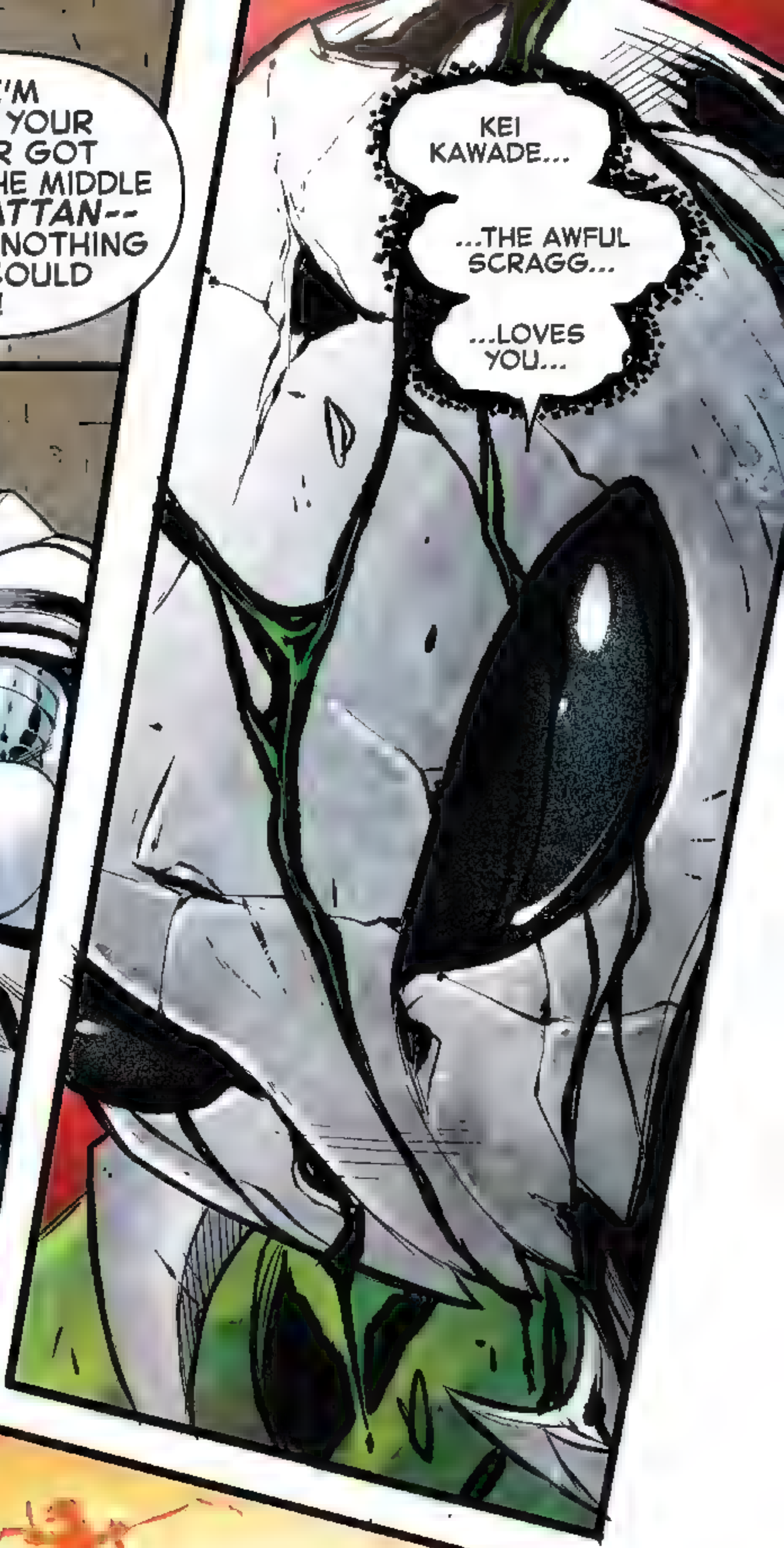


WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM?

HE'S SUFFERING!

WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?

KID, I'M SORRY! YOUR MONSTER GOT TURNED IN THE MIDDLE OF MANHATTAN-- THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE I COULD DO!



KEI KAWADE...

...THE AWFUL SCRAGG...

...LOVES YOU...



FWOOOOOOOSH!!

SC- SCRAGG?





THIS  
HAS BEEN A  
LONG TIME  
COMING!

VENOM AND  
SPIDER-MAN  
TOGETHER  
AGAIN!

AND STILL  
OUTCLASSED!

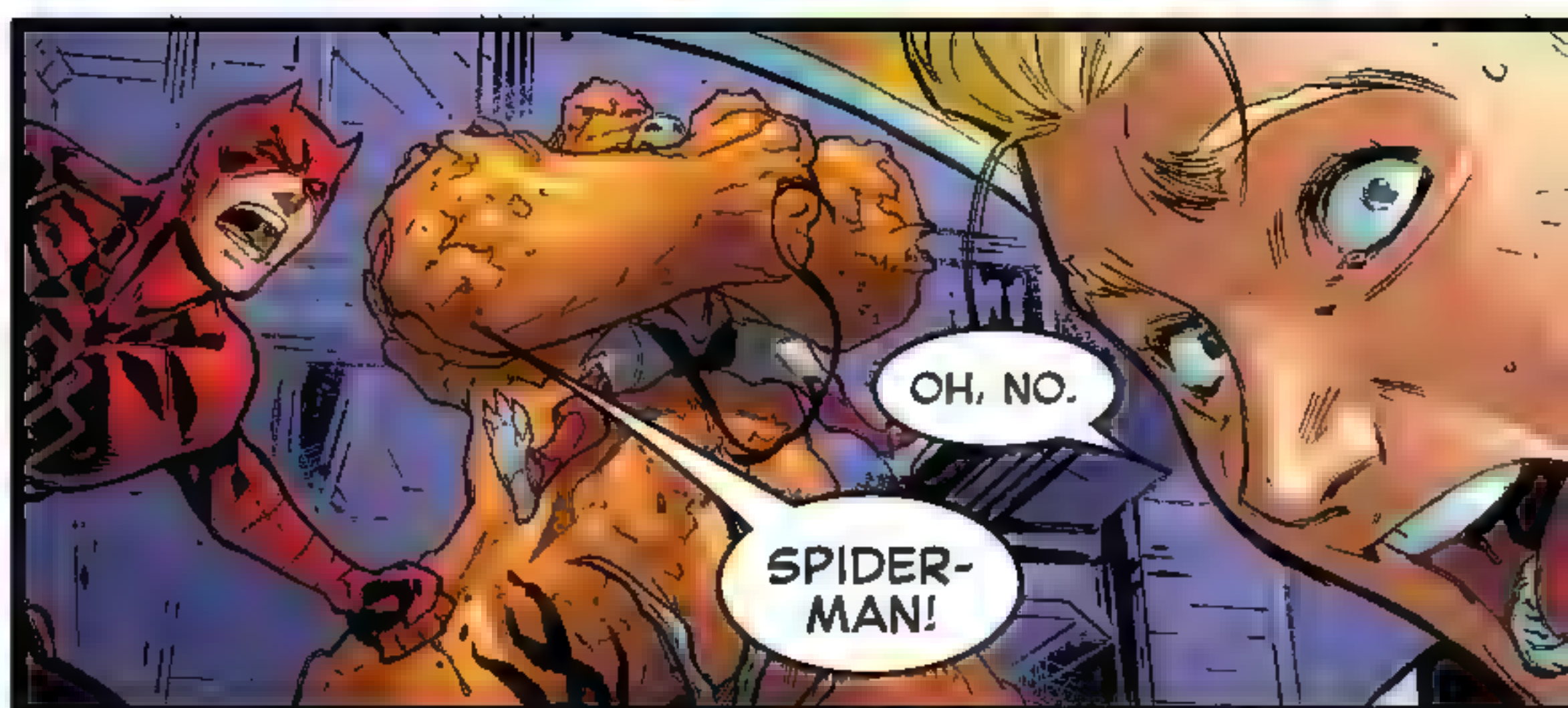
THE HIVE  
THINKS THEY  
MADE ME INTO  
AN OBEDIENT  
HOUND!

BUT  
I AIN'T  
NOBODY'S  
DOG!



I ONLY  
CARE ABOUT  
KILLING  
--STARTING  
WITH YOU.

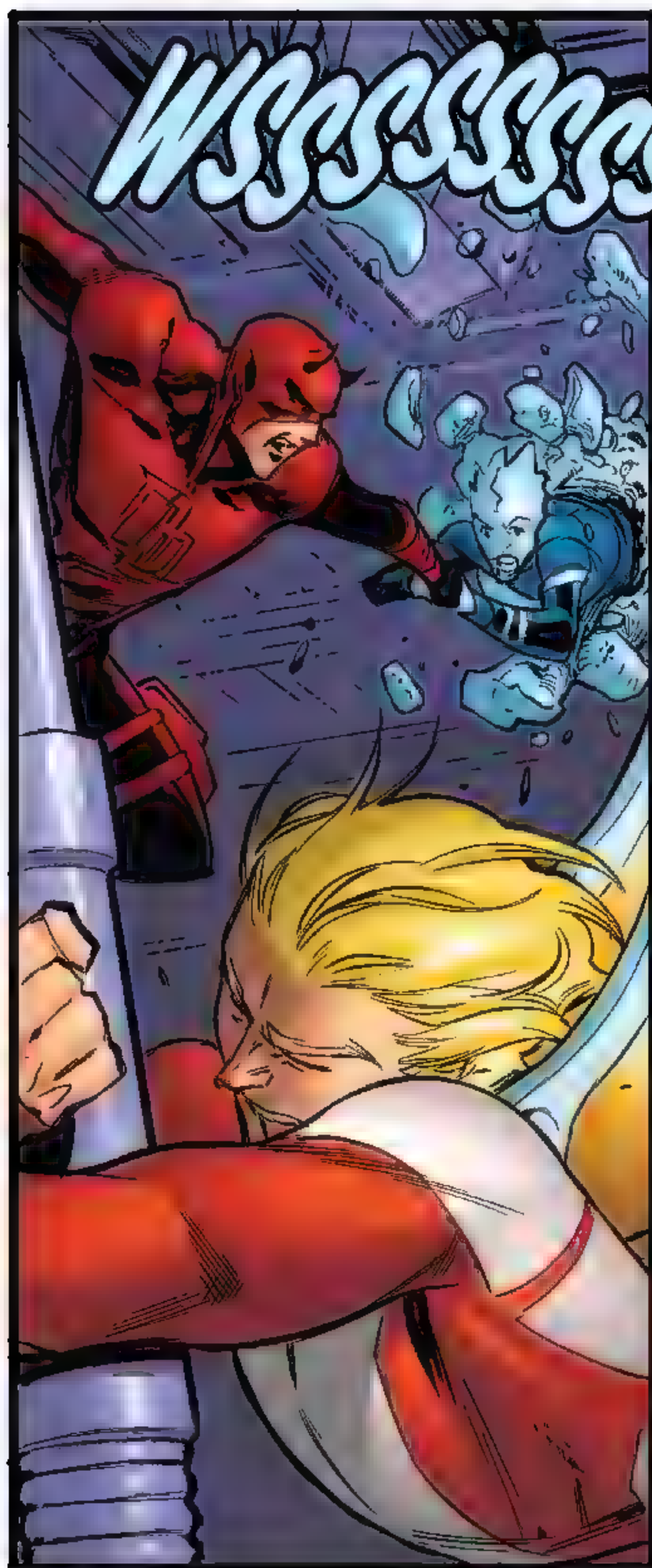
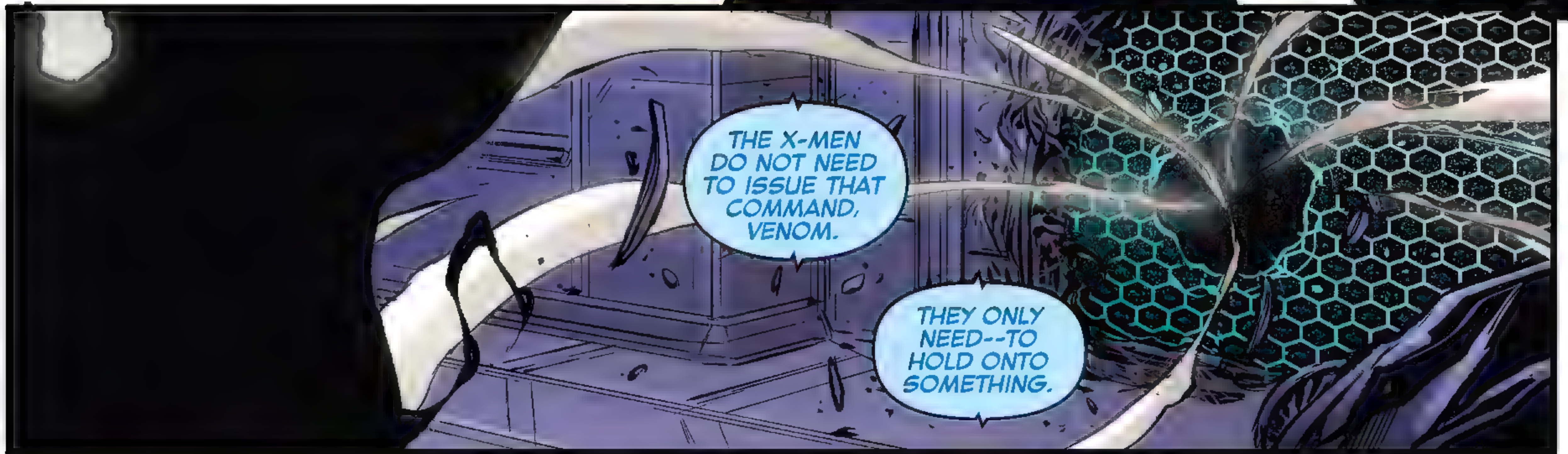
VENOM!  
HOLD  
ON!



OH, NO.

SPIDER-  
MAN!









**REEEAAAARGH!**

S-SOME  
KIND OF PSYCHIC  
FEEDBACK. JEAN,  
WHY ARE YOU  
DOING THIS.

TOO  
MUCH--??



...I'M  
NOT.

THE  
HIVE ACTS  
THROUGH  
US.

IT WAS NOT  
A LIE WHEN I SAID YOU  
WOULD STRENGTHEN THE  
HIVE. SHE DRAWS UPON  
OUR COLLECTIVE  
STRENGTH.

SHE  
USES YOUR  
GIFTS.



THE PLANET  
WILL BELONG TO THE  
HIVE SOON ENOUGH,  
BUT THESE  
MORSELS?

SHE  
WANTS THE  
PLEASURE OF  
KILLING THEM  
HERSELF.



DO YOU  
THINK I WOULDN'T  
NOTICE HOW YOU  
RESISTED? JEAN  
GREY?

YOU ARE  
BUT ANOTHER  
ANOMALY.

THIS WILL  
BE THE FINAL  
STEP IN YOUR  
CONSUMPTION.

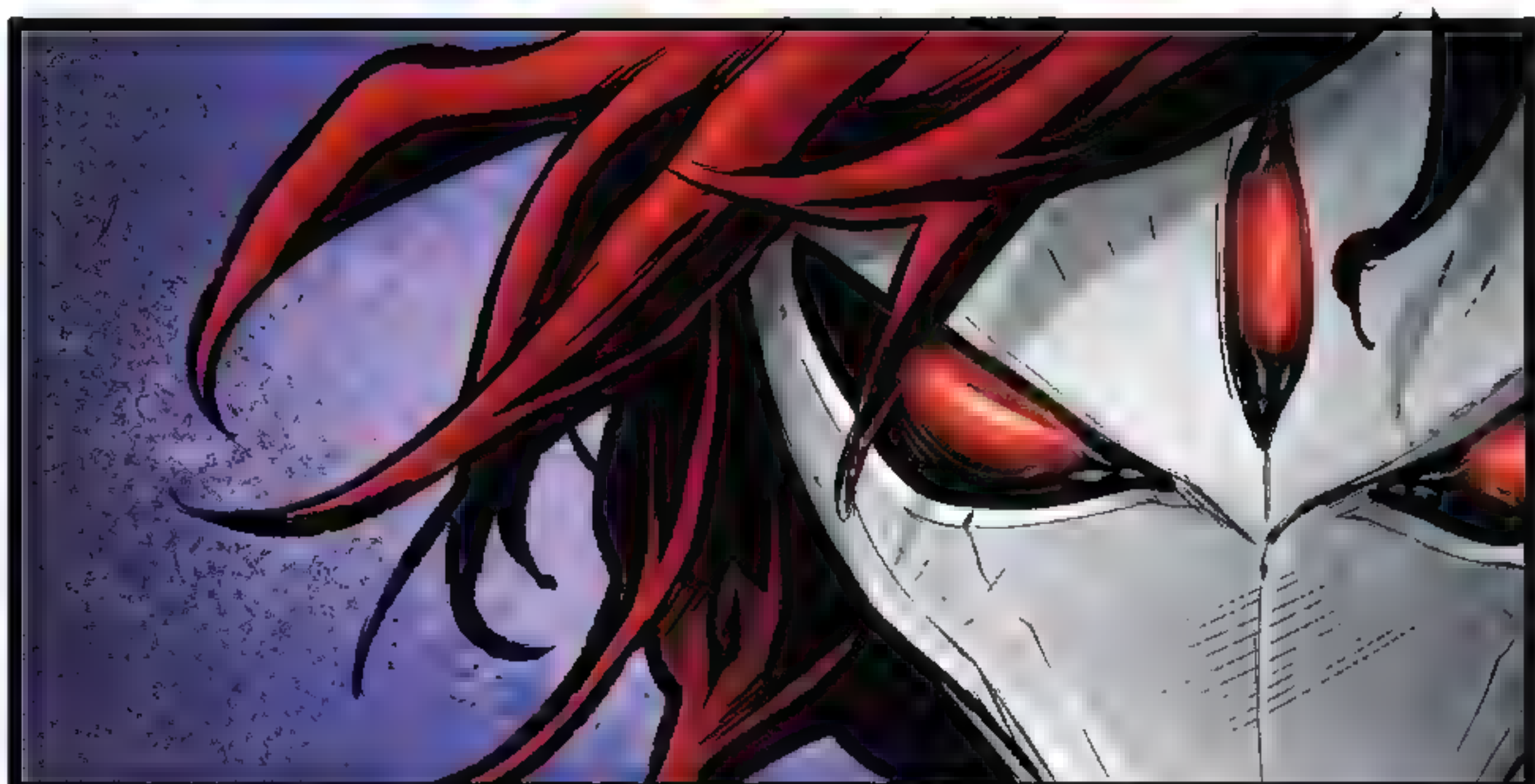


NNGH--

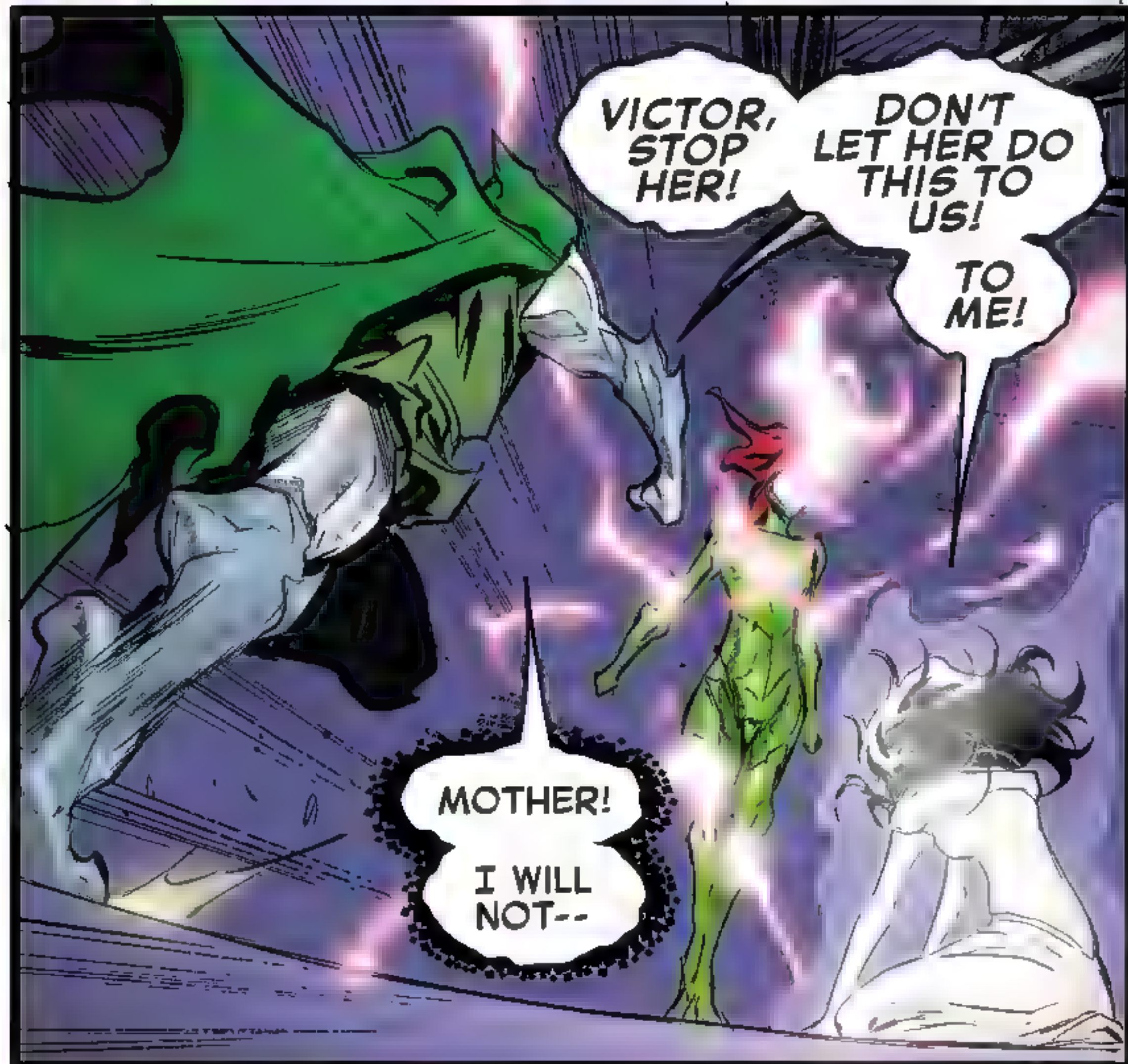
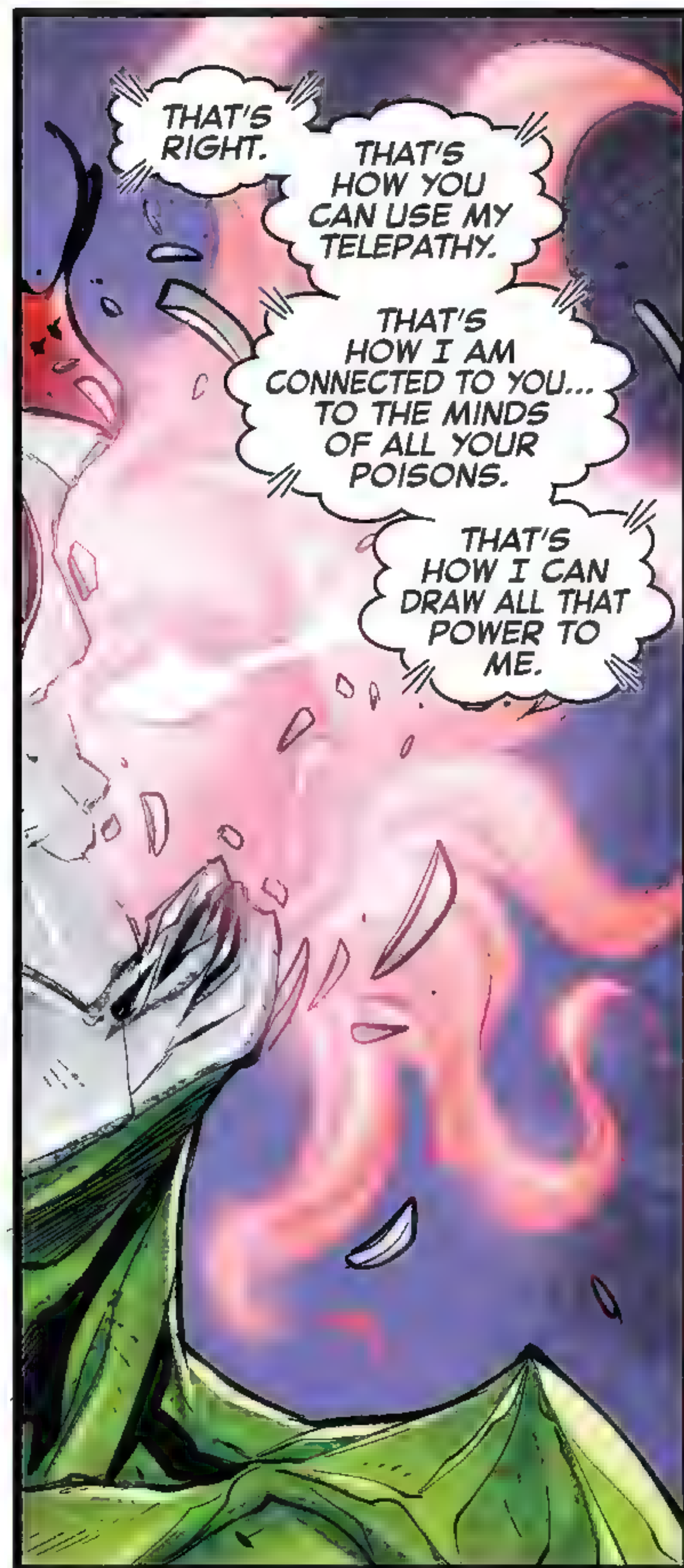
**JEAN!**

JEAN--  
STOP THIS!

DON'T  
DO THIS!







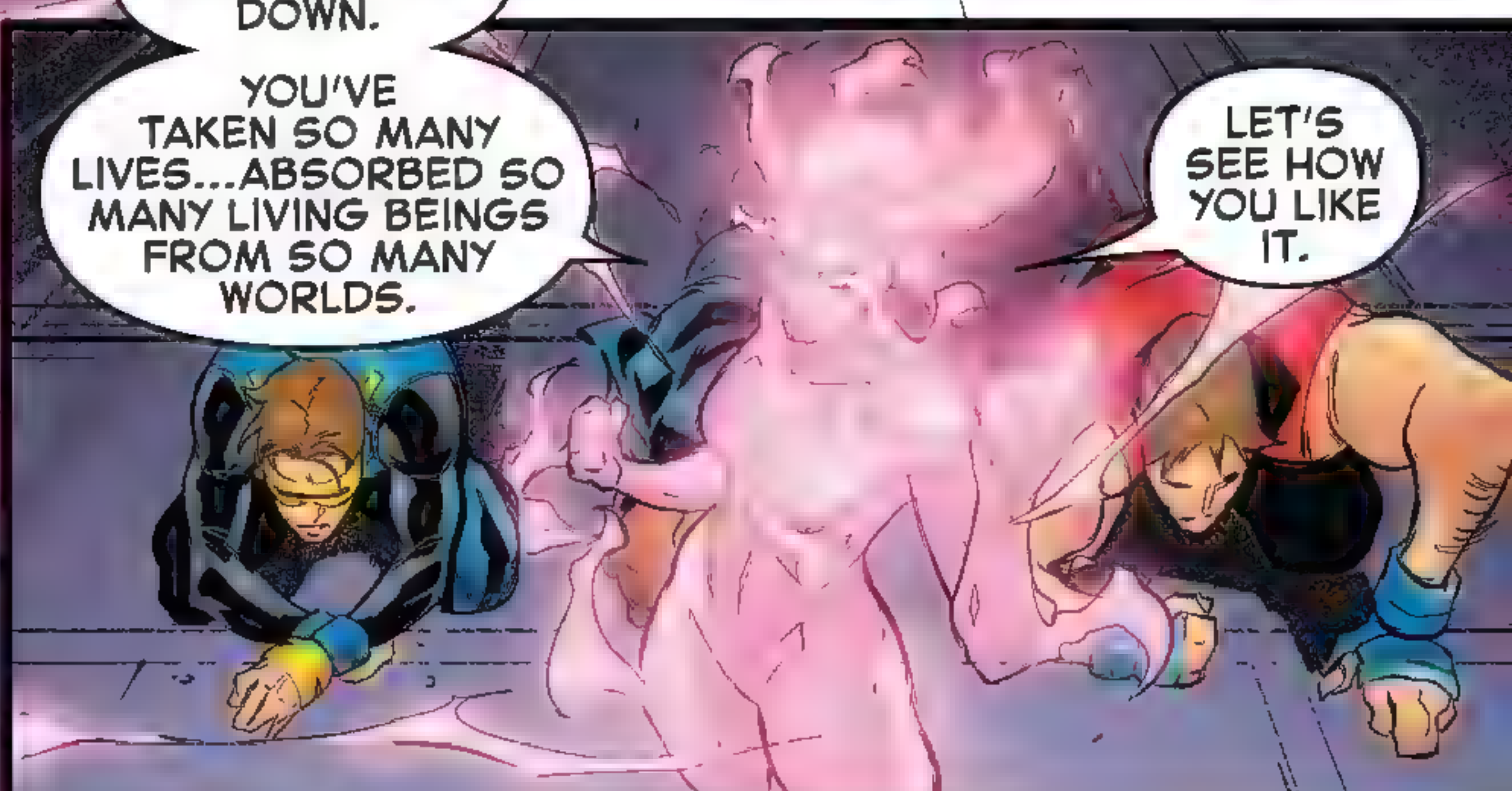




NO.  
I THINK  
I'VE HAD  
ENOUGH.  
ENOUGH  
OF THE  
POISONS.



ENOUGH  
OF YOU.



I'M  
SHUTTING YOU  
DOWN.

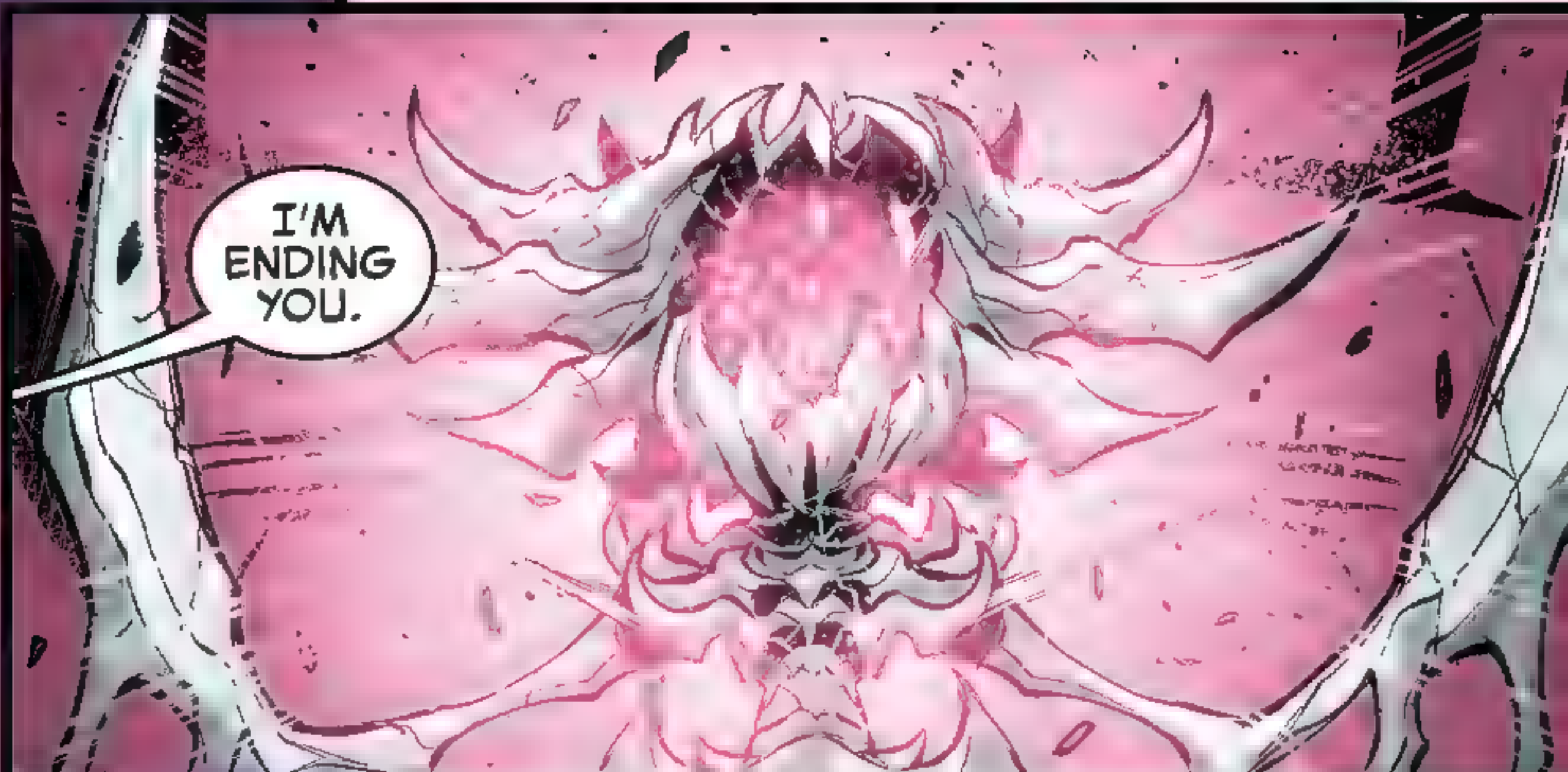
YOU'VE  
TAKEN SO MANY  
LIVES...ABSORBED SO  
MANY LIVING BEINGS  
FROM SO MANY  
WORLDS.

LET'S  
SEE HOW  
YOU LIKE  
IT.

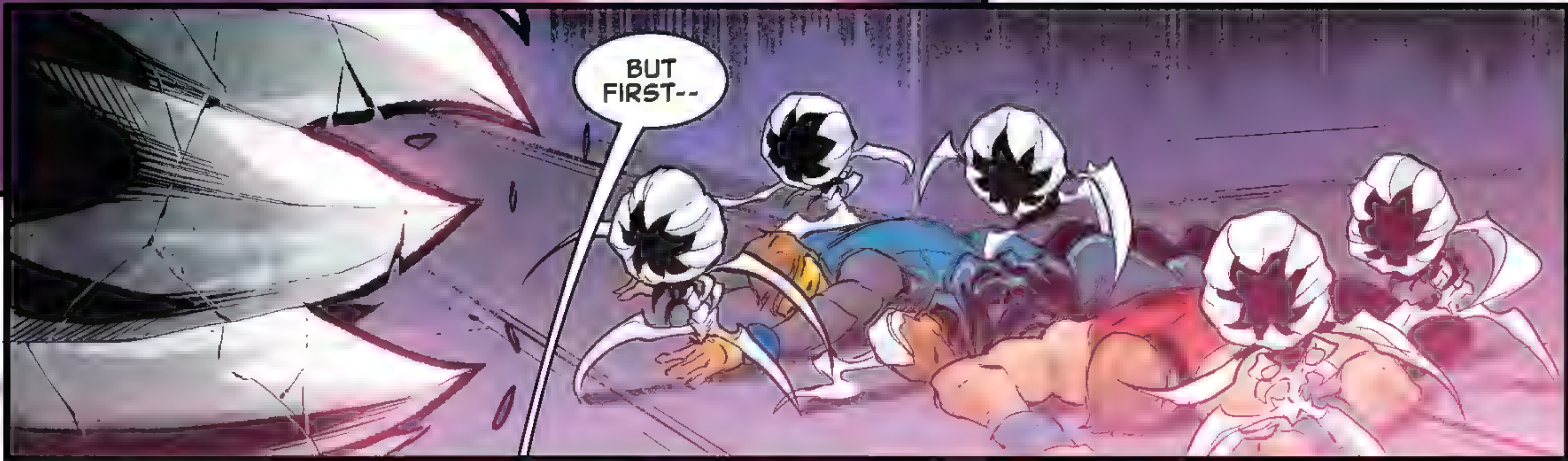


I'M  
TAKING IT  
BACK.

N-NO!  
MOTHER!



I'M  
ENDING  
YOU.



BUT  
FIRST--



**THE  
POISONS-  
THEY'RE  
DYING!**

**SKREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE**

"VENOM'S TEAM...  
THEY MUST HAVE  
MADE IT TO THE  
POISON SHIP!

SKREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

**"WHATEVER  
THEY'VE DONE...  
IT'S CAUSED SOME  
SORT OF CHAIN  
REACTION!"**

**"THE POISONS ARE  
COLLAPSING IN  
ON THEMSELVES!"**



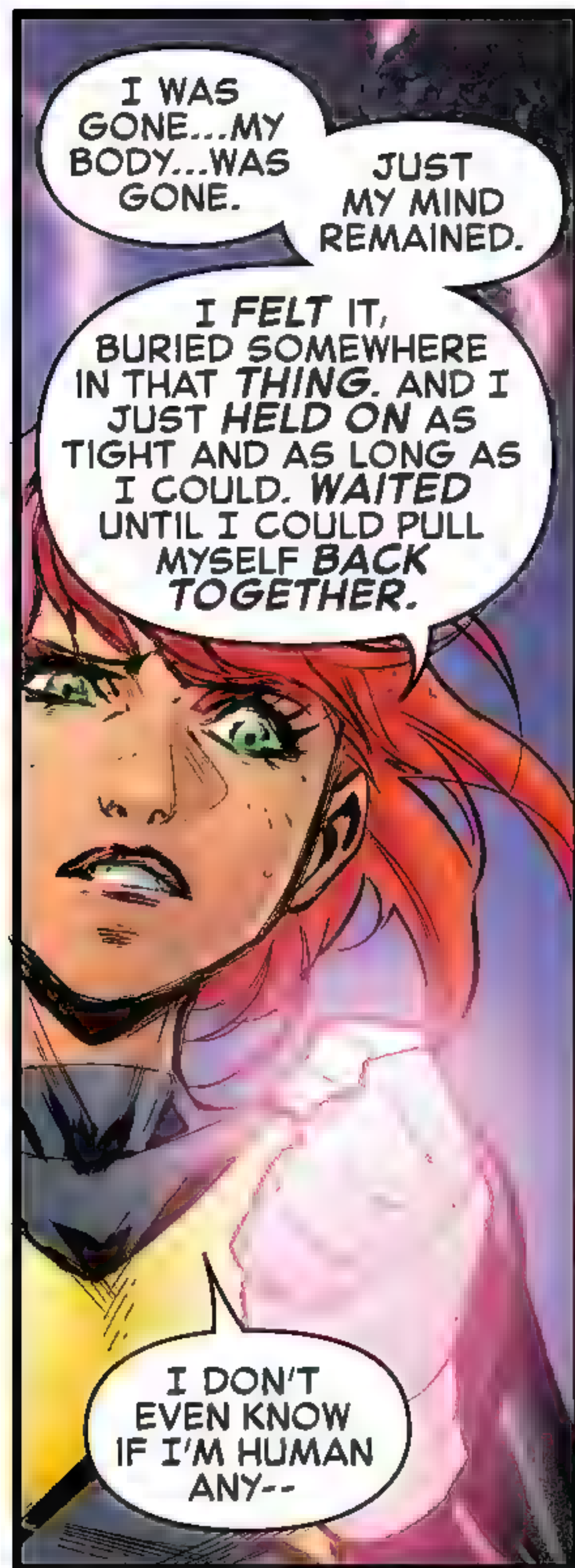


"THEY'RE FINISHED!"



JEAN?  
IS  
IT REALLY  
YOU?

I...  
THINK  
SO?



I WAS  
GONE...MY  
BODY...WAS  
GONE.

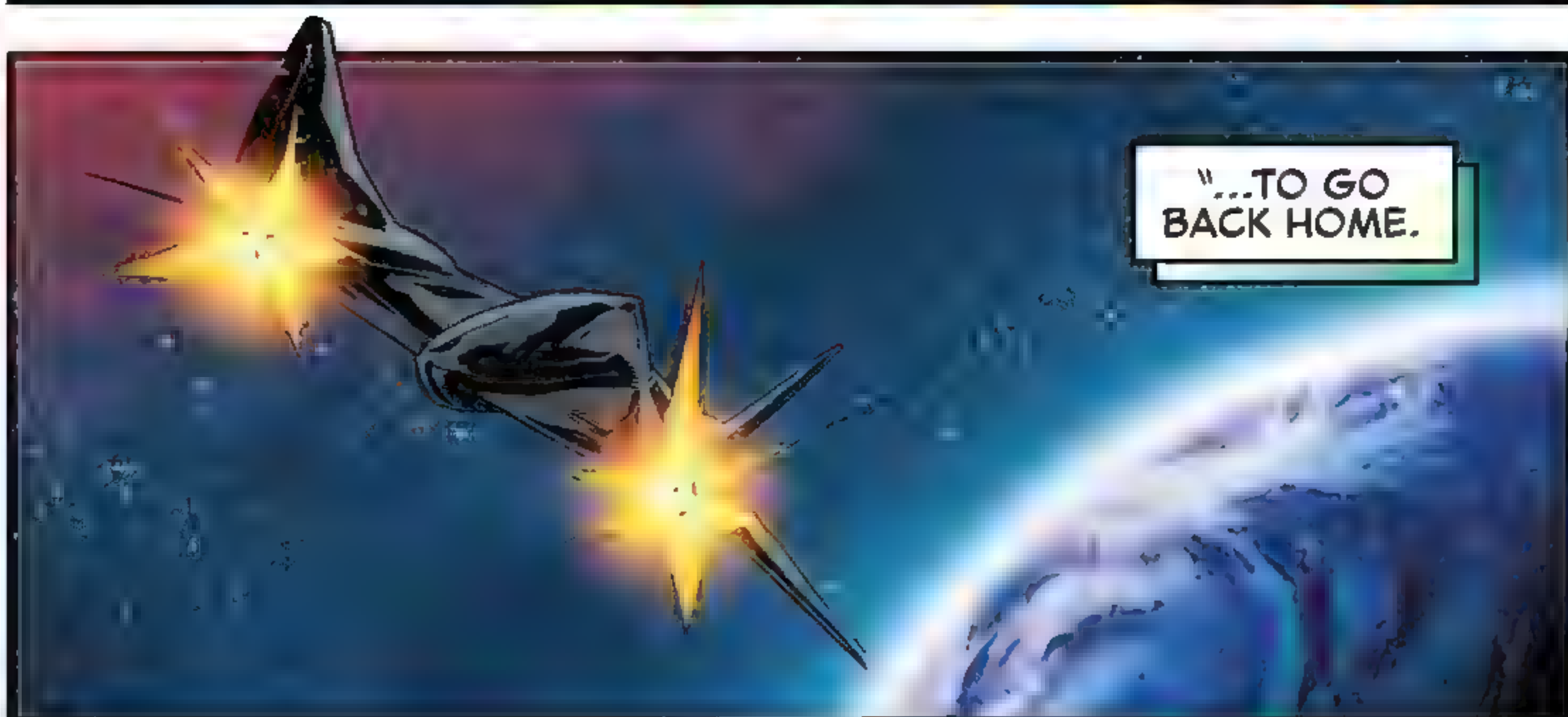
JUST  
MY MIND  
REMAINED.

I FELT IT,  
BURIED SOMEWHERE  
IN THAT THING. AND I  
JUST HELD ON AS  
TIGHT AND AS LONG AS  
I COULD. WAITED  
UNTIL I COULD PULL  
MYSELF BACK  
TOGETHER.

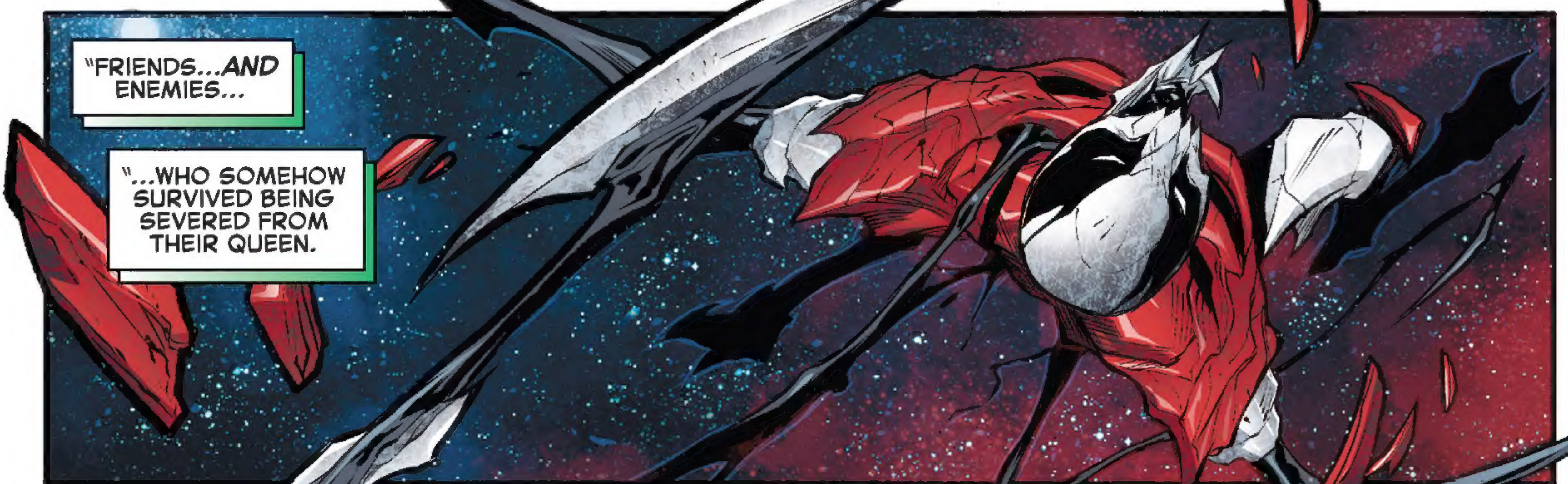
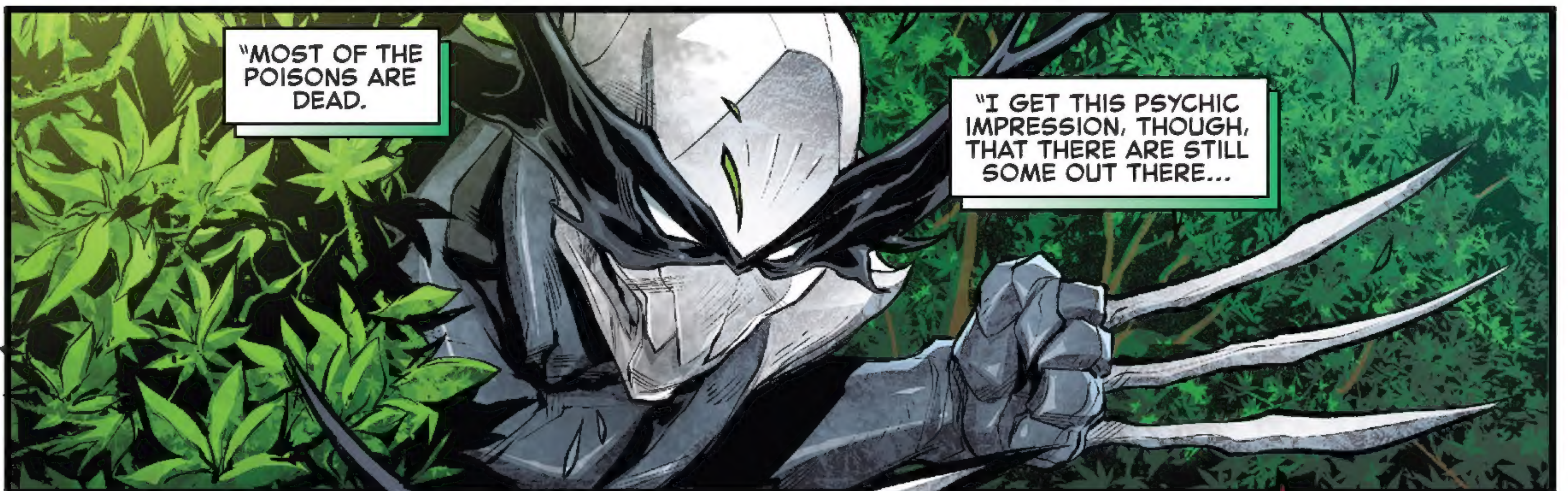
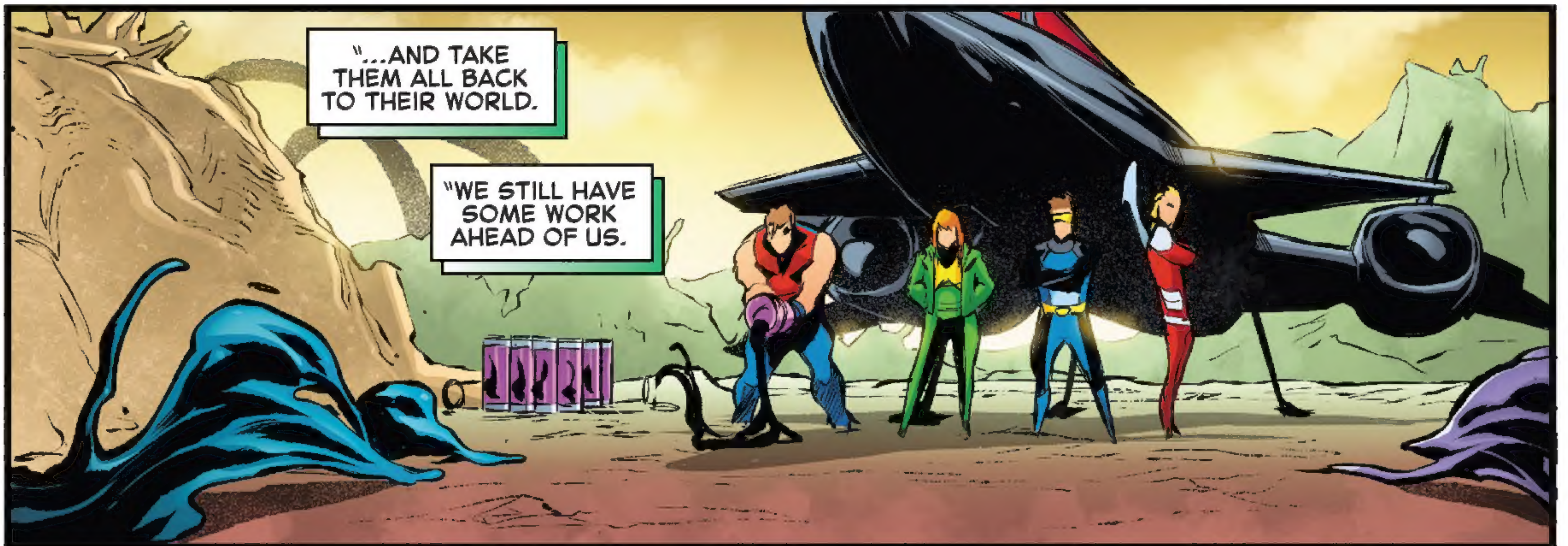
I DON'T  
EVEN KNOW  
IF I'M HUMAN  
ANY--



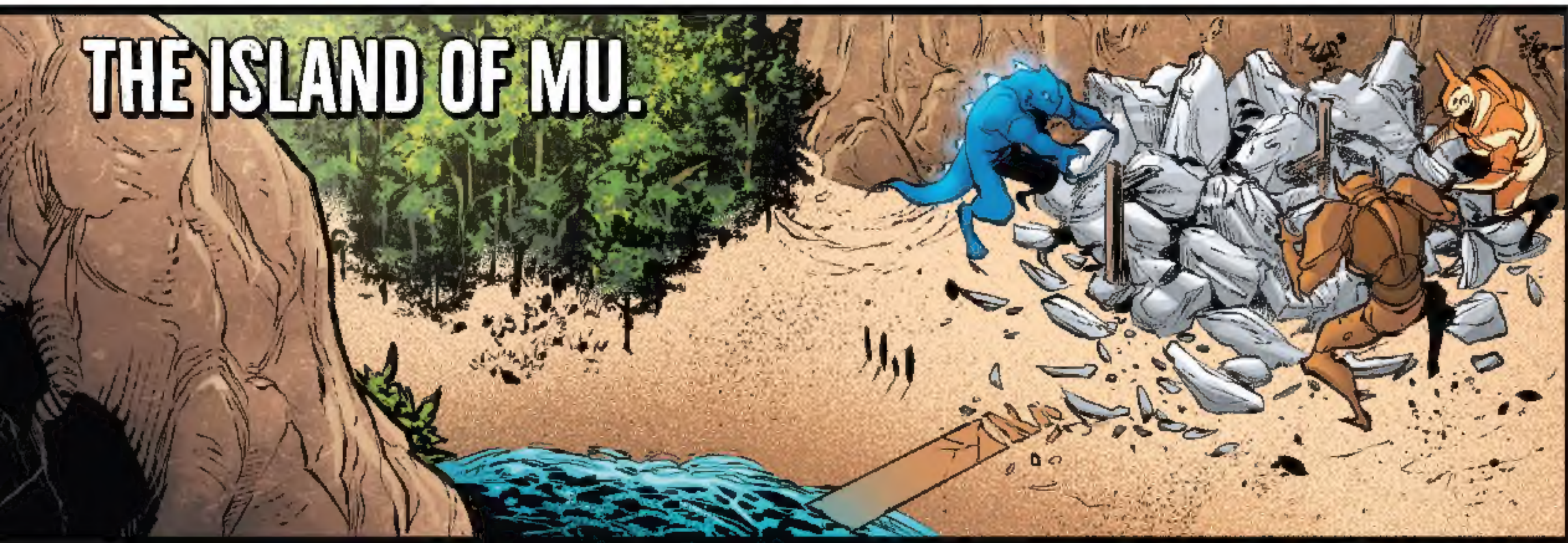












"I COULD  
SENSE WHAT  
THE POISONS  
WANTED..."

"I COULD FEEL  
HOW FRIGHTENED  
THEY WERE."



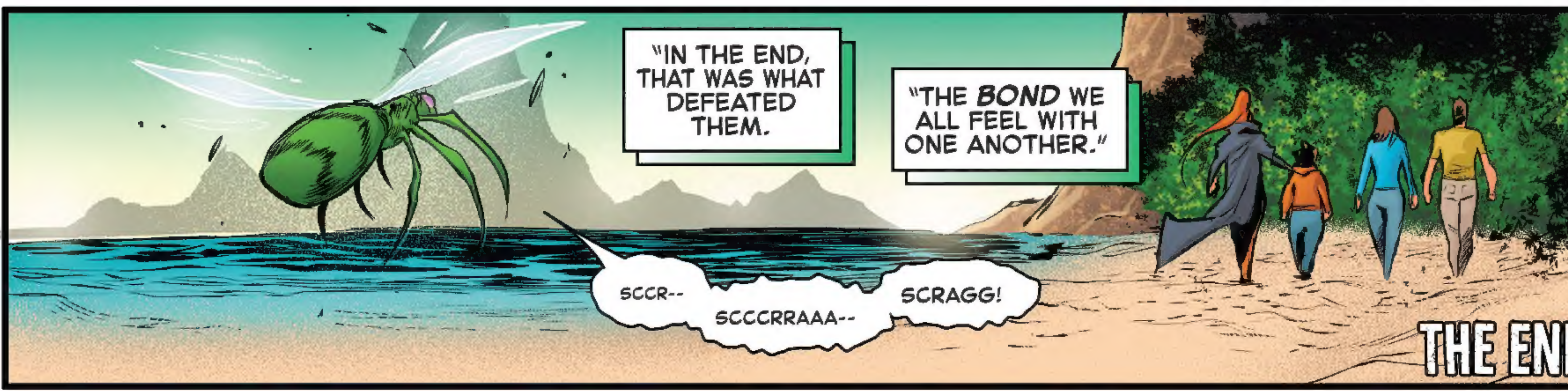
"I KNOW  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT THEM,  
THOUGH."

"I WAS  
CONNECTED TO  
THEM...TO ALL  
OF THEM."



"I'VE NEVER  
FELT SUCH  
FEAR."

"NO MATTER  
HOW POWERFUL  
THEY MIGHT HAVE  
BECOME...THEY  
WERE ALL SO  
AFRAID."



"IN THE END,  
THAT WAS WHAT  
DEFEATED  
THEM."

"THE *BOND* WE  
ALL FEEL WITH  
ONE ANOTHER."

SCCR--  
SCCCRRAAA--  
SCRAGG!

THE END.





# Eddie's Clubhouse

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## THE END... FOR NOW!

Hello, readers! Venomaniac In Chief Devin Lewis reporting to you live and in print from Marvel HQ in the heart of New York!

And after five issues, **VENOMIZED** comes to a close, and with it the epic Poison saga that Cullen Bunn and Iban Coello kicked off nearly a year ago in **VENOMVERSE**!

It's been an absolute privilege to shepherd this story over these past several months, and it's been equally terrific watching the response that Cullen, Iban, and Matt's hard work has been met with by you fans out there in Mighty Marvelworld! Now, **VENOMIZED** #1 only went on-sale a few hours ago, so you'll have to wait for a future **VENOMous** letter column to read the notes we'll receive about it.

**BUT!** The crossover story that served as a prequel to **VENOMIZED**, "Poison-X" that took place in **VENOM** and **X-MEN: BLUE**, has been on-sale for just about a month now, and we're **STILL** getting letters singing its praises! Let's take a read!

Hey guys,

Jaremy here again. Just sat down and finished my pulls this week, light load actually, started with **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: RENEW YOUR VOWS** #16, I love the spider-family so much, MJ and Peter just fit so well together and Annie is that puzzle piece that brings the whole picture together. I am so grateful for this title that I could probably fill your whole letters page with it. But I'll save us all some time and just give a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who pushed for **Renew Your Vows**, as a long time reader it means the world to me.

Now, onto the second book of the evening, **X-Men Blue** #21, while I can't honestly say that I'm a big fan of the time displaced x-men, I will say that the **Poison X** crossover has me chomping at the bit for more. The symbiote designs for the 05 are top tier, giving Jean a third eye makes her look the 10/10 winner. Looking forward to seeing how this all plays out and into the upcoming **VENOMIZED** series.

Jaremy "the Jerm" B.

Thanks for reading, and for writing, Jaremy, and we're hoping you enjoyed **VENOMIZED**! This issue's Jean Grey turn was planned from the very earliest planning stages of **Poison-X** and **VENOMIZED**, so we hope you dug it!

But "Poison-X" readers aren't the only folks who sent along letters for this letter column. Writer Cullen Bunn, had a few

thoughts he wanted to share with you readers who've stuck around for every issue of the extraterrestrial epic!

So, here we are, at the end of a story that started way back in **VENOMVERSE** and slithered its way through **MONSTERS UNLEASHED**, **X-MEN BLUE**, and **VENOM**! We didn't set out to tell an epic tale of alien invasion from the beginning. When I sat with the Marvel editors brainstorming the first tale of the Poisons, I had this idea of wrapping it all up with a glimpse of the scariest Poisoned villain of all--Thanos! Now, after more than a dozen issues, I feel like I've bonded with a symbiote... and I can't get the damn thing off! I've written a lot of Venom stories over the years, but it feels like this is the end (unless my plans for Mania finally come to fruition). I've really enjoyed telling these tales of intelligent alien slime, and this swan song romp has been a blast for me! Thanks to everyone who helped put this thing together-- Iban Coella, Kevin Libranda, Andrea Broccardo, Edgar Salazar, Jacopo Camagni, Axel Alonso, Devin Lewis, Nick Lowe, Tom Groneman, Emily Newcomen, Darren Shan, Chris Robinson, Mark Pannicia, Christina Harrington, and everyone else who contributed to this monstrosity! And thanks to you readers--especially the Venom fanatics out there. I love how every book I work on introduces me to a new bunch of readers. You're all awesome, and I'm grateful to have the chance to know you.

Cullen Bunn

**But every comic is a collaboration between a writer and an illustrator, and for this particular tale we were fortunate enough to get one of the best -- Iban Coello. Iban illustrated VENOMVERSE, so you can imagine how delighted we were when he signed up to come back for this series! Before we close this one out, he wanted to share a quick note with you, too --**

Hey, guys,

Thanks for all the support you gave to us and Venom in this series! Being part of this story was a blast, and I hope we all meet again in a new **Venomized** adventure. See you soon!

Iban Coello

**But that ain't all! Without the efforts of "Majestic" Matt Yackey, Iban's beautiful artwork would have arrived at your comic shop and in your hands in glorious two-color black and white (technically, it'd be**

grayscale, but you get the point). Thank goodness, we were able to convince Matt to return to the world of **VENOM** and, boy, am I sure glad we did.

And last, but by no means least, we owe a tremendous thank you to our letterer, Joe Caramagna. Joe's gotta be the most patient guy in comics. I mean, how would **YOU** like dealing with my craziness each and every day?!

That's just about all the space we've got for this one today, **True Believers**!

But fear not! Because the **VENOM** adventure doesn't stop here -- not by a long shot. As regular readers already know, May marks the 30th Anniversary of Venom's first full appearance, and this epic conclusion is just the first of a series of celebratory issues that we've been cooking up here at the house of ideas, and it all starts **NEXT WEEK**!

**VENOM** #1 from Donny Cates and Ryan Stegman lands on store shelves on 5/9/2018, and it's one you won't want to miss. So be sure to tell your shop to pull a copy for you!



All right. That's it for me! I'm off to plan Venom's surprise birthday party! He likes surprises, right?

Stay sharp!  
Devin

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